

## Capstone, Keystone and Pinnacle Courses

The U.S. Joint Forces Command Joint Training Directorate/Joint Warfighting Center partners with the National Defense University in providing three unique courses designed to continue the military education of flag and general officers and senior enlisted leaders.

These programs include:

- **The Capstone Joint Operations Module (JOM)**, a four-day portion of the statutory six-week course for newly-selected one-star flag and general officers. The Capstone program ensures leaders understand the fundamentals of joint doctrine, integrating the elements of national power to accomplish national security and military strategies, and how joint, interagency and multinational operations support national strategic goals and objectives. The module is designed to help prepare leaders to employ their forces more effectively in joint and multinational operations. The Capstone JOM uses small group sessions, guest speakers and video teleconferences with commanders in the field to examine elements that affect current and future joint task force (JTF) operations. Participants also speak with experienced flag and general officers about their experiences and learn about the process of setting up and operating a JTF.
- **The Keystone JOM** is a four-day portion of the two-week course that educates command senior enlisted leaders (CSEL) serving or slated to serve in flag or general officer-level joint or service headquarters that could be assigned as JTFs. The semi-annual course parallels the Capstone program. Keystone fellows visit combatant commands, JTFs as well as senior leadership in the Washington area to explore the relationships and challenges of operating in a joint environment. The course covers the unique relationship between the CSEL of a joint force commander and the enlisted personnel from all the services operating under that commander. The purpose of Keystone JOM is to enhance comprehension of and appreciation for joint doctrine and the joint operational art. The learning strategy is built around plenary seminars and small group sessions that emphasize critical joint force commander issues and lessons learned. Observer/trainers and subject matter experts support the fellows in their efforts.
- **The Pinnacle JOM** is a four-day portion of the five-day course that helps prepare prospective three-star joint and combined force commanders to lead, building upon the progression of knowledge imparted by the Capstone and other flag officer educational courses. . The semi-annual course is conducted through classroom interactive seminars guided by experienced three- and four-star officers and equivalent interagency senior leaders. That is reinforced by video teleconferences with field commanders and high-level guest speakers. Pinnacle's mission is to convey an understanding of national policy, its objectives and their international implications to prospective joint and combined force commanders. It also advances their knowledge and ability to operationalize those policies and objectives into integrated campaign plans.